



MAINE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

23 State House Station
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333

STATE OF MAINE

The State Board of Education held a regular monthly meeting on March 14, 2007, at the Burton M. Cross State Office Building, Augusta, the following members present: Chair James Carignan; Vice Chair Philip Dionne, Ellie Multer, Janet Tockman, Ann Weisleder, and Jack Norris. Excused: Jean Gulliver

Also present were: Commissioner Susan Gendron; and Harry Osgood, Higher Education Specialist, Support Systems Team; Scott Brown, AIA, Director of School Facilities; and Rhonda Casey, Clerk.

CALLED TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 9:20 a.m.

CONSENT AGENDA

RECEIPT OF THE INTERIM REPORT FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF MAINE AT
FOR KENT TEACHER EDUCATION PROGRAM

MAJOR CAPITAL SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION PROGRAM; SITE APPROVAL
CONSIDERATION; ELLSWORTH SCHOOL DEPARTMENT – ELLSWORTH
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION PROJECT

MOVED by Phil Dionne, seconded by Joyce McPhetres, and unanimously voted to
approve the consent agenda.

Motion to amend the agenda to include the consideration of the Initiation of the Maine
Administrative Procedures Act (APA) for Chapter 118: Purposes, Standards, and
Procedures for Educational Personnel Support Systems.

MOVED by Ann Weisleder, seconded by Joyce McPhetres, and unanimously voted to
amend the March 14, 2007, agenda.

REGULAR BUSINESS:

MAJOR CAPITAL SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION PROGRAM; *CONCEPT APPROVAL CONSIDERATION*; PENINSULA CSD, NEW PREK-8 ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION PROJECT.

Statement of Fact: Peninsula Consolidated School District was formed between the towns of Gouldsboro and Winter Harbor following the closing and abandonment of the Gouldsboro Grammar School due to excessive mold. Over the past three years the students from both communities have been housed at the Winter Harbor Grammar School. The project was the third highest scoring school on the 2004-2005 Approved Projects List. The present school has a significant number of deficiencies in both site and program that cannot be corrected through renovation.

School officials have been very responsive to attempts to keep the cost of the facility within the projected budget. The project makes excellent use of the site and takes advantage of natural daylighting. The new facility will house about 180 pre-kindergarten through Grade 8 students. This represents the entire enrollment of the CSD.

This Concept Approval is being requested pursuant to M.R.S.A. Title 20-A, Section 15905(1).

Project Information:

Project: New PreK-8 Elementary School
Superintendent: William Webster
Principal: Marielle Edgecomb
Architect: Richard Graves, AIA, WBRC Architects

Superintendent Webster has provided the following project description statement:

A little over three years ago the Gouldsboro Grammar School was closed due to a mold problem. Overnight the 150 or so Gouldsboro K-8 students were combined with 35 or so Winter Harbor students at the Peninsula School. This facility is an outdated and overcrowded structure with insufficient classroom space, no playing fields, small library, no cafeteria space, no stage, narrow hallways and multiple entrances.

Once completed, the new school will address all the deficiencies above and will offer a safe, supportive learning environment. The building will bring in new programs, including pre-kindergarten and technology, and has sufficient flexibility to meet enrollment and class needs that will change over time. Transportation costs will be reduced as practices and events that take place at other locations will be scheduled on-site. The building will be designed to LEED standards and make extensive use of natural lighting. Finally, this new school will be a focus of community pride and activity that will help foster a renewed interest in families moving to and living in Gouldsboro and Winter Harbor.

Project Budget Information:

Estimated total Project Cost: \$12,400,000

State/Local Cost: \$11,880,000

Local Only Cost: \$400,000

Anticipated Maine High Performance Schools Energy Grant: \$120,000

Construction Committee Recommendation: The Construction Committee met on March 6, 2007, and voted unanimously to send this exhibit to the State Board of Education for consideration with an approval recommendation.

Commissioner Recommendation: The Commissioner recommends that the State Board grant Concept Approval to Peninsula CSD for a new PreK-8 elementary school at Prospect Harbor, in the town of Gouldsboro, Maine, and approve the budget as presented.

Moved by Ellie Multer, seconded by Phil Dionne, and unanimously voted by those present to grant Concept Approval to Peninsula CSD for a new Pre K-8 elementary school at Prospect Harbor, in the town of Gouldsboro, Maine, and approve the budget as presented.

INITIATION OF THE MAINE ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES ACT (APA) FOR CHAPTER 118: PURPOSES, STANDARDS, AND PROCEDURES FOR EDUCATIONAL PERSONNEL SUPPORT SYSTEMS

Background: The Department of Education and the State Board of Education propose to amend the rules governing educator certification support system. Among the amendments was the inclusion of required performance standards: Maine's Initial Teacher Certification Standards. The proposed amendments include revised definitions and procedures for use by local support systems, which support professional educators in seeking higher certification. The proposed changes to rule are the result of the work of a stakeholders group which met monthly from January 2004 through April 2006. The proposed changes are presented to the Board for consideration with the concurrence of all stakeholders. This rule is not major and substantive and thus is not subject to time constraints that honor legislative approval.

Recommendation: That the State Board of Education approve proceeding with rulemaking regarding the proposed amendments to Chapter 118 in accordance with the Maine Administrative Procedures Act.

MOVED by Joyce McPhetres, seconded by Jack Norris, and unanimously voted to approve proceeding with rulemaking regarding proposed amendments to Chapter 118 in accordance with the Maine Administrative Procedures Act.

CONSIDERATION OF THE REVIEW TEAM REPORT CONCERNING THE LOYOLA UNIVERSITY REQUEST TO OFFER ITS GRADUATE LEVEL ACADEMIC CREDIT PROGRAMS IN MAINE

Background: 20-A MRSA, Chapter 409 provides that the State Board of Education may approve an application from a postsecondary educational institution located outside the State of Maine to offer within the state courses or programs for academic credit. Officials from Loyola University of New Orleans, Louisiana, through sponsorship by the Roman Catholic Diocese of Maine, requested authorization to offer the degree of Master of Pastoral Studies (M.P.S.) and the Master of Religious Education (M.R.E.) as well as certificate programs in both of these areas in the State of Maine. Loyola University received prior authorization by the Board to offer these programs in Maine from 1994 through 1997. As there will be a physical presence in Maine, the current request requires approval by the State Board of Education.

The Loyola University request was reviewed by the Board-approved team January 19, 2007, on the Westbrook College Campus of the University of New England. Following that meeting a report of findings was compiled in accordance with the rules established by the Board.

Recommendation: That the State Board of Education accept the Loyola University Review Team Report of Findings. The period of approval will be from spring 2007 to spring 2012.

MOVED by Phil Dionne, seconded by Ann Weisleder, and voted unanimously in favor to accept the Loyola University Review Team Report of Findings. The period of for approval will be from spring 2007 to spring 2012.

Jack Norris left the meeting at 11:45 a.m.

CHAIR'S REPORT:

Chair Carignan reported on the following:

- That he has been spending a lot of time in Augusta listening to the Legislature and its deliberations regarding regionalization.

BOARD MEMBER REPORTS:

Ellie Multer:

- That she will be submitting testimony for LD 781, An Act to Ensure Equitable Geographic Representation on the State Board of Education.

Ann Weisleder:

- That she participated as a non-voting member in the review of Unity College's program review.

- That there is a meeting scheduled on March 23, with guidance counselors from different schools.
- That on March 27 and 28 a standards setting and validation studies meeting has been scheduled for the Praxis II content and secondary PLT assessments, which will then be adopted for initial certification by the State Board.
- That she will be attending the NASBE sponsored study group meeting on March 16 and 17 as a member of the English Language Learners Study Group.

ADJOURNMENT:

State Board of Education unanimously agreed to adjourn the March 14, 2007, meeting at 11:45 a.m.